King County Community and Human Services Office of the Public Defender (OPD) - Summary Dashboard Report

Product Measures								
	1 st Qtr	YTD						
# of cases assigned	4,254	4,254						
# of clients assigned	3,939	3,939						
# of clients screened	1,932	1,932						
# of promissory notes								
issued	1,490	1,490						
Total promissory notes	\$172,416	\$172,416						
# of expert requests								
received	632	632						
% of expert requests								
approved by OPD	89%	89%						

Product Improvements

Staff operation meetings: OPD coordinated meetings with contractor staff as a step toward improving administrative processes and procedures. Meetings provided a space to exchange information, discuss troublesome issues, and understand each other's needs and goals.

Expert Services Workgroup: A workgroup consisting of felony supervisors from all 4 public defense contractors, assigned counsel attorneys, expert service providers and OPD staff was convened to document and review the expert services approval process in order to improve the expert services approval process. The workgroup made recommendations that will be implemented in coming months.

Continuing Legal Education Updates

Coordinating Civil Legal Aid Services and Dependency Services for Adolescents.

Upcoming

Using Social Work Services in Dependency and Termination Cases (April)

Three-Day Trial Advocacy Intensive Training (April)

Other Notable Items

Pending aggravated murder cases: M. Anderson, J. McEnroe, I. Kalebu, and C. Monfort. A case is under investigation from Northgate that involved a double homicide and reportedly has three potential defendants. No one is charged or in custody on this case at this time. G. Ridgway was charged and convicted in January on one count of Aggravated Murder, and sentenced to Life without Parole.

Business Plan Performance Measures									
	Status	Hist.	2010	2010	1 st Qtr	Bench			
		Avg	Target	Actual	2011	mark			
Felony variance		2.28%	≤ 0%	2.4%	0.00%				
Misdemeanor variance		6.95%	≤ 0%	20.5%	0.00%				
Juvenile variance		2.32%	≤ 0%	-9.3%	-13.9%				
Dependency variance		2.15%	≤ 0%	0.0%	0.86%				
Avg days to IC felony assignments		.77	≤1 day	.80	.86				
# of complaints received and % determined to be valid		93/2%	100/0%	87/1%	9/0%	/10%			
% of cases contacted		77% IC	100%	94% IC 100%OC	annual				

Other Performance Measures Becca variance 3.16% ≤ 0% 2.0% 1.62% ITA variance 21.92% ≤ 0% 17.4% 12.19%

Improving –Target achievable =
Unfavorable Trend–Target not attainable =
V

Watch-Target at risk =

Division Director's Message

There are several issues from the end of 2010 which will impact the OPD budget in 2011:

- Interim case weighting, extraordinary case credits, persistent offender credits, and extra credits allowed on felony cases in 2010 were the equivalent of 14.9 FTE additional defense counsel funding.
- Truancy case projections will be impacted by the Washington Supreme Court decision in Bellevue School District v. E.S., issued June 9, 2011. Adjusted caseload projections and costs have been included in amendments to the 2011-2012 Public Defense contracts.
- Washington State Patrol (WSP) troopers for increased DUI patrols were added effective 7/1/10. This will likely increase the number of DUI cases in the county by 1,200 per year, with OPD receiving at least half of those and appointing counsel at the rate of about 60 to 75% of DUI's filed. Recent reports from the WSP and District Courts indicates increase in filings consistent with OPD estimates,
- Backlog of felonies, misdemeanor and DUI cases at the PAO, equivalent to 5 defense attorney caseloads.
- Continued increase in ITA cases

Actual variances are relevant only at the end of each contract (June 30 reconciled variances). Quarterly variances or end-of-calendar-year variances are interim measurements only.

Definitions

AC: Assigned counsel panel attorneys

IC: In custody

OC: Out of custody

Becca: Juveniles charged under the Becca Bill

COC: Contempt of court hearings

Depend/Dependency: Child dependency hearings on

parental rights

ITA: Involuntary Treatment Act hearings

Misd: King County Misdemeanor

Charts



